Remarks

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2002 in the above-identified application. In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted Applicants' invention to two designated groups, namely, the invention of Group I (claims 1-5, 8-19 and 23-29) and Group II (claims 6-7 and 20-22). Applicants respectfully submit that they are somewhat confused by this restriction. Although the Examiner indicated that the Group I claims were subject to the restriction requirement, he did not actually restrict the Group I invention; instead, he made the original total numbers of claims (i.e. claims 1-29) subject to the restriction requirement. Although this restriction conflicts with what the Examiner indicated to be the pending claims, in the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have assumed that the restriction requirement encompasses the entire group of original claims (i.e. claims 1-29) and thereby, elect the invention designated as Group I, without traverse. Applicants also note that they were prosecuting these same claims in the parental application (USSN 08/779,775) to which the present application claims priority.

Applicants have amended claims 1-5, 11-13 and 23 and 24 to better define the invention. Applicants submit a marked up version of the claims (ATTACHMENT A) showing where the amendments were made. Applicants also have added new claims 25 and 26. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments and new claims add no new matter and request their entry into the record. Applicants also submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and request such action.

Respectfully submitted,
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ATTACHEMENT A

1. (amended) An isolated or purified polynucleotide **[comprising a nucleotide sequence]** which encodes a human endosulfine and **[fragments and compliments]**__complements__ thereof.

2. (amended) The polynucleotide of Claim 1 wherein said **[nucleotide]**__polynucleotide__ is SEQ ID NO:1.

3. (amended) The polynucleotide of Claim 1 wherein said **[nucleotide]**__polynucleotide__ is SEQ ID NO:2.

4. (amended) The polynucleotide of Claim 1 wherein said **[nucleotide is SEQ ID NO:1]**__polynucleotide comprises__ from about nucleotide position 107 to about nucleotide position 460 __of SEQ ID NO:1__.

5. (amended) The polynucleotide of Claim 1 wherein said **[nucleotide is SEQ ID NO:1]**__polynucleotide comprises__ from about nucleotide position 107 to about nucleotide position 472 __of SEQ ID NO:1__.

11. (amended) The __recombinant__ expression vector of Claim 8 __wherein the vector portion of said expression vector is__ selected from the group consisting of pProEx1 and pcDNA3.1.

12. (amended) The __recombinant__ expression vector of Claim 9 __wherein the vector portion of said expression vector is__ selected from the group consisting of pProEx1 and pcDNA3.1.

13. (amended) The __recombinant__ expression vector of Claim 10 __wherein the vector portion of said expression vector is__ selected from the group consisting of pProEx1 and pcDNA3.1.

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Attachment A

23. (amended) A method for producing a polypeptide containing at least one human endosulfine epitope comprising incubating host cells transformed with an expression vector wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a human endosulfine**, and producing said polypeptide**.

24. (amended) The method of Claim 23 wherein said nucleotide sequence which encodes a human endosulfine has the sequence SEQ ID NO:2 **and [fragments and compliments]complements** thereof.